**IT Applications Unit 3  
Chp 3: Networked Information Systems**

**Hardware & Software**

**Network operating systems**

1. What is the role of the network operating system?  
   It controls traffic on the network and defines how devices will communicate with each other.
2. What are the two components of a NOS?  
   The two components are sever software and client software
3. List the 3 significant providers of NOS’s.  
   -Microsoft Windows NT/2000  
   -Windows XP Pro and windows server 2003  
   -Novell and Apple

**Application software for communications**

1. List the application software used for communications  
   -Electronic mail (email)  
   -File transfer protocol (FTP)  
   -Web browser  
   -Videoconferencing  
   -Instant messaging  
   -Chat room

**Network Interface Card (NIC)**

1. What is the role of this device?  
   Used to link a computer or resource to a network

**Wireless Access Point (WAP)**

1. What is the role of the WAP?  
   It is to connect wireless communication devices to a wired or wireless network.
2. What is meant by roaming and a hotspot  
   Roaming is where a number of APs are connected to a wired network, allowing users to move from one area to another and maintain their network connection.  
   Hotspot is a location where users with a wireless-enabled computer are able to communication with an AP. Organisations such as cafes, hotels and airports provide this.

**Hub**

1. Describe the role of a hub?  
   A hub takes any incoming signal and rebroadcasts it down all of the outgoing wires connected to it.

**Switches**

1. Describe the role of a switch?  
   A switch stores the address of every device down each wire leading from the switch
2. Why is a switch preferred to a hub in a network?

**Routers**

1. Describe the role of a router  
   Router is a communication device that allows several remote LANs to connect over a WAN, or join a number of LANs into one bigger LAN.

**Modems**

1. What is a modem?  
   A modem is a device that is used to send a computers digital signal over a telephone line.
2. What is the limitation of a dial up modem?
3. Distinguish between the following modems:  
   a. ISDN  
   b. DSL & ADSL  
   c. Cable modems